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## (54) PRODUCTION OF GALACTOSYLGLYCEROLS

## (57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain the subject compound useful as a food, a chemical, a medicine, etc., by treating a mixture of glycerol and a galactose compound with a  $\beta$ -galactosidase in the presence of a yeast belonging to the genus *Saccharomyces* industrially and advantageously.

SOLUTION: A mixture of glycerol and a galactose compound (e.g. lactose) is treated with a cell of a bacterium capable of producing  $\beta$ -galactosidase [e.g. *Cryptococcus laurentii* var. *laurentii* OKN-4 (FERM P-7629), etc.] or a  $\beta$ -galactosidase produced by the bacterium at 40° C for 6 hours to produce the objective galactosylglycerol of the formula (Gal is a galactose residue; Gly is glycerol; (n) is 1-2) and useful a food, a chemical, a feed, a medicine, etc., efficiently and inexpensively.



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